

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05
NSC-05 EPG-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01
NEA-10 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00
XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 /098 W
-----070244 240646Z /23

R 240547Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8898
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EFIN, JA
SUBJECT: REPORTED SOVIET REQUEST TO DEFER IMPORT PAYMENTS

1. DURING RECENT MEETING ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, BANK OF TOKYO (BOT) OFFICIAL MENTIONED TO VISITING REGIONAL TREASURY ATTACHE AND FINATT THAT THREE SOVIET STATE CORPORATIONS RECENTLY ASKED CERTAIN JAPANESE TRADING COMPANIES TO EXTEND PAYMENT TERMS FROM 30 TO 90 DAYS. TRADING COMPANIES HAD REPORTEDLY SHIPPED EXPORTS ON 30-DAY COLLECTION BASIS BUT WERE REQUESTED IN LATE APRIL TO DEFER COLLECTION UNTIL JULY. BOT INTERPRETS SOVIET REQUEST FOR DEFERRAL AS REFLECTING PROBLEMS WITH USSR INTERNAL BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR STATE TRADING COMPANIES RATHER THAN OVERALL FOREIGN EXCHANGE SHORTAGE FOR SOVIET UNION.

2. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION AT MINISTRY OF FINANCE (MOF), YAMAGUCHI (DIRECTOR, OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT DIVISION, INTERNATIONAL FINANCE BUREAU) TOLD FINATT BOT OFFICIAL WAS APPARENTLY REFERRING TO APRIL 29 ARTICLE IN JAPANESE-LANGUAGE EDITION OF ASAHI, WHICH CONCLUDED THAT

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SINCE NOTICE OF REQUEST TO POSTPONE IMPORT PAYMENTS COVERED IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTS IT APPEARED TO AFFECT ABOUT 80 PERCENT OF ALL EXPORTS CURRENTLY BEING SHIPPED TO USSR.

3. YAMAGUCHI DID NOT EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT PROBLEM, SAYING THEY TOO PERCEIVE THIS AS INTERNAL RATHER THAN EXTERNAL FINANCIAL ALLOCATION PROBLEM, BUT HE DID MENTION MORE

RECENT ARTICLE IN MAY 20 EVENING EDITION OF ASAHI WHICH
DISCUSSED RECENT USSR PROPOSALS TO JAPANESE TRADING FIRMS
THAT ACCOUNTS BE SETTLED IN EGYPTIAN POUNDS OR INDIAN
RUPEES. YAMAGUCHI SAID THAT AFTER ARTICLE APPEARED, MOF
PLACED CALLS TO FOREIGN TRADING COMPANIES AND WAS TOLD THAT
SOVIET TRADE OFFICIALS HAD INDEED PROPOSED PAYMENTS NOT ONLY
IN THOSE CURRENCIES BUT IN OTHER NON-CONVERTIBLE LDC
CURRENCIES ALSO.

4. IN VIEW OF RELATIVELY RELAXED POSTURE OF MOF AND BOT
OFFICIALS, WHOM WE REGARD AS QUITE KNOWLEDGEABLE, WE SEE NO
IMMEDIATE REASON FOR STRONG CONCERN. NEVERTHELESS, WE
ARE WATCHING SITUATION AND WILL REPORT ANY FURTHER
DEVELOPMENTS.

MANSFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: IMPORTS, DEBT REPAYMENTS, BANK LOANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TOKYO09433
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770225-1256
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770620/aaaaarwf.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 77684977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2040351
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTED SOVIET REQUEST TO DEFER IMPORT PAYMENTS
TAGS: EFIN, JA, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/77684977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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